

**BASF Aktiengesellschaft****AE 20030434/Kes****PF 0000055529/Kes****- 16 -****Process for preparing reactive polyether polyols having an ethylene oxide end block****5 Abstract**

Process for preparing polyether polyols having an end block of ethylene oxide by addition of alkylene oxides onto H-functional starter substances, in which

- 10 A) a polyether polyol precursor is prepared by means of double metal cyanide (DMC) catalysis in a semicontinuous mode of operation in which previously prepared polyether polyol together with the DMC catalyst are placed in a reactor and H-functional starter substance and propylene oxide are added continuously,
- 15 B) the polyether polyol precursor from stage A) is reacted with propylene oxide or an ethylene oxide/propylene oxide mixture in the presence of the DMC catalyst in a continuously operating reactor to give a polyether polyol intermediate,
- 20 C) the intermediate from stage B) is mixed with an alkali metal hydroxide as catalyst and
- 25 D) reacted with ethylene oxide in a continuously operating reactor to give the final product,
- E) the catalyst is separated off from the final product obtained in stage D).

B03/0434US IB/XS/jw

April 21, 2004

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